LELAND STANFORD JUNIOR UNIVERSITY.

ASTRONOMY.

PALO ALTO, CAL., U. S. A.

Sept. 5, 1895.

Mr. Wm. A. Knight,
Los Angeles,

Dear Sir:- I thank you for your cordial letter and should I be in Los Angeles I shall be very glad to meet the members of the Southern California Science Association and to be of whatever service I can to you. At present it does not seem probable that I shall be in the southern part of the state this winter.

Concerning Swift's comet, and the newspaper date of perihelion passage. "Oct. 5, 1962" should have read "Oct. 5.1962" = Oct. 5d 4h 42m 31s G.M.T. The elements I first derived were based on observations made at intervals of about a day, and from the

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shortness of the intervals between the observations and particularly the position of the comet, some of the elements were very uncertain. From other observations I have obtained new elements as follows:

Time of Perihelion Passage,	Aug. 18.d 2754	G.M.T.
Longitude of Perihelion	339° 18′ 27.″3	
" " Node	173 10 39.1	
Inclination	4 3 23.3	
Perihelion distance	1.4372	
Eccentricity	Unity.	

In deriving these elements I have made the computations by the general method, and have obtained a parabolic orbit. I had expected to obtain an ellipse of ~~consid~~ rather small eccentricity, but so far as the observations which I used are concerned, the orbit is sensibly a parabola.

Yours very truly,

W. J. Hussey.

1895

W. J. Hussey - Lick Observatory

He selected the site of the

Mt Wilson & Palomar

Observatories